[21st October 1947

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have no information on the point now."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" From the list, I see that the capacity of the mills varies from 450 tons to 600 tons; may I know if the Government are aware that 800 tons is the only economic unit? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I would like to have notice."

Handlooms in the Bellary district.

* 105 Q.—SRI B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of handlooms in each of the main centres of handloom cloth production in Bellary district and the quota of yarn supplied to each centre during the years 1944, 1945 and 1946, and the half year ending with 30th June 1947;

(*b*) how many looms were actually worked and how many were bogus looms in each centre; that is, looms not worked but in respect of which yarn has been supplied;

(*c*) whether the authorities concerned have taken any action to find out the extent of bogus looms in each centre and if so, the result thereof;

(*d*) whether any action has been taken against the persons who took supplies of yarn in respect of bogus looms;

(*e*) whether the authorities concerned have taken any action to satisfy themselves that the necessary quantity of handloom cloth has been manufactured corresponding to the quantity of yarn supplied, and if so, whether the quantity of handloom cloth has been sold in the market; and if so, the quantity of handloom cloth manufactured and sold in the district during each of the years referred to in clause (*a*); and

(*f*) whether the authorities have taken necessary action in pursuance of Handloom Cloth Control Order; and if not, why not?

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" (*a*) Statements [a] showing the number of looms other than those in the co-operative societies in each of the centres in Bellary district and the quota of yarn supplied to each centre during the period from the 1st January to the 30th June 1947 have been placed on the table of the House. There are 2,226 looms in the co-operative fold. Information regarding the quota of yarn supplied to each centre during the years 1944, 1945 and 1946 is not avaialble.

" (*b*) It is a fact that there are many bogus looms in each centre but their exact number is not known.

" (*c*) The Collector and his subordinates make surprise inspections and detect bogus looms. The Presidents of the Yarn Advisory Committees also detect bogus looms. The local Yarn

[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 565–566 infra.

Inspection Sub-Committees and the Ration Advisory Committees have been asked to take a fresh census of all active looms in each village. When this is done, all the bogus looms will be eliminated.

"(d) In cases where yarn ration is drawn by independent or master weavers for bogus looms, the yarn ration cards for the bogus looms are cancelled and cards for other looms, if any, owned by them are either cancelled or the supply of yarn on them is suspended for some time. The licences of the master weavers to deal in cloth are also cancelled.

"(e) & (f) At present there is no machinery to ensure that all the yarn supplied to producers is converted into cloth by them and not disposed of otherwise. The Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, already promulgated by the Government contemplates the creation of such a machinery. Proposals for bringing into existence as quickly as possible the machinery are under the consideration of the Government."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" Are the Government aware that 500 bogus looms cards have been recovered by the present Textile Officer of Bellary and that these had been granted by his predecessor? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have some information about some of the bogus looms that have been detected; but I cannot say whether 500 bogus looms had been detected; but I take the information from the hon. Member."

SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" In respect of the issue of cards for these looms, is any action proposed to be taken against the officer who granted them and those that took them?"

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have indicated in my answer to clause (d) that whenever such cases are found out their cards are cancelled and no yarn is supplied to them. We have also informed the officers of the department that by drawing yarn on a card which is proved to be intended for bogus looms, the person will make himself liable to be criminally prosecuted."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" May I have an assurance from the Hon. Minister that expeditious steps will be adopted to trace bogus looms as soon as possible? "

THE HON. SRI H. SITARAMA REDDI :—" I have already stated that it all depends upon the active co-operation of the various advisory committees that have been constituted in the various parts of the Province."

Removal of textile machinery to places outside India.

* 106 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that owing to continued labour troubes some textile mills in the Province are arranging to shift the textile machinery to places outside India; and